IN THE CLAIMS;

1. (withdrawn) A method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve of the type having an endless body with a length extending around an axis and a radially inwardly facing surface and a radially outwardly facing surface, said method comprising the steps of:

wrapping at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film against and around the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body with the belt/belt sleeve on a support; and

vulcanizing the belt/belt sleeve with the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film wrapped around the belt/belt sleeve body.

2. (withdrawn) The method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve according to claim 1 wherein the belt/belt sleeve body has axially spaced, axially facing ends and the step of wrapping comprises the step of wrapping at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film over at least part of each of the axially spaced, axially facing ends of the belt/belt sleeve body.

3. (withdrawn) The method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve according to claim 1 further including the step of mounting the belt/belt sleeve on a mold and the step of vulcanizing comprises the step of vulcanizing the belt/belt sleeve with the belt/belt sleeve mounted on the mold.

4. (withdrawn) The method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve according to claim 1 further including the step of removing the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film from the belt/belt sleeve body after vulcanizing the belt/belt sleeve.

5. (withdrawn) The method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve according to claim 4 including the step of treating the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body after removing the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film.

6. (withdrawn) The method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve according to 5 wherein the step of treating comprises the step of grinding the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body.

7. (withdrawn) The method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve according to claim 6 wherein the step of grinding comprises the step of grinding at least two grooves in the belt/belt sleeve body through the radially outwardly facing surface to define at least one V-shaped rib extending along the length of the belt/belt sleeve body.

8. (withdrawn) The method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve according to claim 1 including the step of forming alternating grooves and teeth along the length of the belt/belt sleeve body.

9. (withdrawn) The method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve according to claim 8 wherein the step of forming alternating grooves and teeth comprises

the step of forming alternating grooves and teeth at the radially inwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body and further including the steps of removing the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film from the belt/belt sleeve body after vulcanizing the belt/belt sleeve and grinding the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body after removing the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film.

10. (withdrawn) The method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve according to claim 1 wherein the step of wrapping at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film comprises the step of wrapping at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film that comprises synthetic resin.

11. (previously amended) A method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve of the type having an endless body with a length extending around an axis and a radially inwardly facing surface and a radially outwardly facing surface, said method comprising the steps of:

wrapping at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film against and around the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body with the belt/belt sleeve on a support; and

vulcanizing the belt/belt sleeve wit the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film wrapped around the belt/belt sleeve body,

wherein the belt/belt sleeve body has axially spaced, axially facing ends which join to the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body at first and second corners and further including the step of applying a sealing material in addition to the

vapor-impervious film at at least one of the first and second corners prior to vulcanizing the belt/belt sleeve.

12. (original) The method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve according to claim 11 wherein the step of applying a sealing material comprises the step of applying a fibrous sealing material that comprises at least one of rubber-impregnated canvas and non-woven fabric.

13. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A method of treating a power transmission belt/belt sleeve ~~according to claim 1~~ of the type having an endless body with a length extending around an axis and a radially inwardly facing surface and a radially outwardly facing surface, said method comprising the steps of:

wrapping at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film against and around the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body with the belt/belt sleeve on a support; and

vulcanizing the belt/belt sleeve with the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film wrapped around the belt/belt sleeve body,

wherein the step of wrapping comprises the step of wrapping the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film spirally around the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body.

14. (withdrawn) A treating system comprising:

a support;

a belt/belt sleeve having an endless body on the support, the body having a length extending around an axis and a radially inwardly facing surface and a radially outwardly facing surface;

at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film against and extending around the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body; and

a vulcanizing vessel in which the belt/belt sleeve with the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film thereon resides and in which a vulcanization process can be carried out.

15. (withdrawn) The treating system according to claim 14 wherein the belt/belt sleeve body has axially spaced, axially facing ends and the at least one sheet of vapor-imperious film extends at least partially over the axially spaced, axially facing ends of the belt/belt sleeve body.

16. (withdrawn) The treating system according to claim 14 further comprising a mold on which the belt/belt sleeve body is mounted.

17. (withdrawn) The treating system according to claim 14 wherein the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film comprises a synthetic resin.

18. (previously amended) A treating system comprising:

a support;

a belt/belt sleeve having an endless body on the support, the body having a length extending around an axis and a radially inwardly facing surface and a radially outwardly facing surface;

at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film against and extending around the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body; and

a vulcanizing vessel in which the belt/belt sleeve with the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film thereon resides and in which a vulcanization process can be carried out,

wherein the belt/belt sleeve body has axially spaced, axially facing ends which join to the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body at first and second corners and the treating system further comprises a sealing material which is applied over the vapor-impervious film at at least one of the first and second corners.

19. (original) The treating system according to claim 18 further comprising a mold on which the belt/belt sleeve body is mounted, wherein the sealing material bridges between the belt/belt sleeve and the mold at the at least one of the first and second corners.

20. (original) The treating system according to claim 18 wherein the sealing material comprises at least one of rubber-impregnated canvas and non-woven fabric.

21. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A treating system ~~according to claim 14~~ comprising:

a support;

a belt/belt sleeve having an endless body on the support, the body having a length extending around an axis and a radially inwardly facing surface and a radially outwardly facing surface;

at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film against and extending around the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body; and

a vulcanizing vessel in which the belt/belt sleeve with the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film thereon resides and in which a vulcanization process can be carried out,

wherein the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film is spirally wrapped around the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body.

22. (withdrawn) The treating system according to claim 14 wherein the radially inwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body has alternating grooves and teeth along the length of the belt/belt sleeve body.

23. (withdrawn) The treating system according to claim 14 wherein the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body has an axial length and the sheet of vapor-impervious film has a width that is greater than the axial length of the outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body.

24. (previously amended) A treating system comprising:

a support;

a belt/belt sleeve having an endless body on the support, the body having a length extending around an axis and a radially inwardly facing surface and a radially outwardly facing surface;

at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film against and extending around the radially outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body; and

a vulcanizing vessel in which the belt/belt sleeve with the at least one sheet of vapor-impervious film thereon resides and in which a vulcanization process can be carried out,

wherein there are at least first and second layers of vapor-impervious film over the outwardly facing surface of the belt/belt sleeve body, the first layer having an edge between the axially spaced ends that over-/underlaps a part of at least one of the first and second layers.

25. (withdrawn) The treating system according to claim 14 wherein the vapor-impervious film is a synthetic resin film.

26. (withdrawn) The treating system according to claim 25 wherein the vapor-impervious film is one of polymethylpentene and polyvinyl chloride.